



New Castle Crier

The official newsletter of New Castle City

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Some City Residents Eligible For County Loan Program

Some residents of the City of New Castle may be eligible to participate in a loan program administered by the County Department of Community Services. The Homeowner Rehabilitation Direct Loan program (HRDL) provides an affordable way for qualified homeowners to make necessary repairs to their homes.

Eligible repairs are limited to those related to health and safety and can include work on heating, plumbing, electrical, roofing, structural problems,

siding, winterization and modifications to accommodate those who are physically challenged.

Once eligibility has been determined, a Housing Rehabilitation Specialist from the County will visit and assist in identifying housing problems and in making plans for the repairs.

The homeowner makes the decision about who does the work and the County will assist with how it is done. All arrangements are confidential to ensure privacy is maintained.

To qualify, a home value may not exceed \$278,050 and income of participants must fall within the following guidelines:

No. In Family	80% of Median Income
1	\$40,400
2	\$46,150
3	\$51,950
4	\$57,700
5	\$62,300
6	\$66,950
7	\$71,550
8	\$76,150

Other rules also apply. Persons who may be eligible and wish to participate should call the County at 395-5648, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Exciting Events Planned For Senior Center

To introduce the public to the new addition to the historic Booker T. Washington School, the New Castle Senior Center is hosting two events.

- Open House
Free and Open to the Public
Sunday, May 6, 3 to 5 p.m.
- Gala June Jambalaya
Saturday, June 2, 6 to 10 p.m.

Mark your calendars and look for more information in the *New Castle Weekly* or call the Senior Center at 302-326-4209.

Police Officers Receive Honors

Congratulations to New Castle City Police Master Sergeant James Barnes, who was selected as the Elks Lodge citizen of the year.

Kudos, also, to New Castle City Police Corporal Sean Hogan, who was selected by the Moose Lodge as the Police Officer of the Year.

**The next
City Council
meeting is 7 p.m.,
Tuesday, May 8 at
Town Hall**

Property Tax Exemptions

For information on applying for the Over 65 or Disability exemption, call Marian Delaney at 322-9811. Yearly income requirements: \$12,500 single and \$25,000 married. Social Security is not counted. Last day to apply is June 15.

New Castle - The First Capital City!

New developments in New Castle stimulate growth spurt in residential housing

Older cities spanning small areas, such as New Castle with about three square miles, normally have little room for growth. Bucking that trend, New Castle has seen a recent spurt in major residential developments.

Completed within the past year is the Deemer's Landing apartment complex, with 144 units. Residents in the area of the complex, located at the corner of 9th and Washington Streets, have commented what a welcome improvement the apartments are compared with the unkempt look of the previously vacant property.

The new development of the Riverbend subdivision recently cleared major hurdles in the approval process for the City, which included appearances before the City Planning Commission and the City Council. At a meeting held January 29,

Planning Commission members voted unanimously to recommend approval of this major subdivision to the City Council.

At the Council meeting on Feb. 13, the first and second readings of an ordinance approving the major subdivision of Riverbend were completed. The third reading was completed and final approval from the City Council was granted on March 1.

The plan for the subdivision, located in the most westerly portion of New Castle off Route 9 near Dobbinsville, is to develop 130 detached single-family homes, along with 80 townhouse units. The development will be age-restricted, providing housing mainly for senior citizens. A total of about 115 acres, or nearly 80 percent of the development parcel, is slated to remain open space.

Be parking considerate!

Some areas of the City can pose challenges for parking from time to time. The majority of streets are public and open to parking for anyone. Also, many homes do not have off-street parking and those property owners must find places to park on the public streets. For property owners with off-street parking available, it is helpful if that is used on a consistent basis, so as not to take up spaces for properties without this amenity.

No property owns any space on the public streets. It is unlawful to place items in parking spaces in the street in order to "save" a parking space (i.e., cones, trash cans, lawn chairs, etc.)

Please be considerate when parking on the public streets. Your neighbors and others visiting our great City will appreciate it!

New Castle City Law requires picking up after your dog. This is especially important in parks & other public places!



Code Enforcement Corner

The City of New Castle Board of Health strives to keep properties in conformance with adopted rules and codes. To report any problems or file a complaint, please call Code Enforcement Officer John Lloyd at 302-323-6081. Complaint forms are also available on the City Web site at www.newcastlecity.org.

Take an outside view of your own property

We ask all homeowners, landlords, renters and commercial proprietors in the City to take some time and really look at the properties you own. Look from the front, sides and rear. Look at your properties from the perspective of your neighbors. Look, keeping in mind that property values are directly tied to a community that is neat, clean and kept well-maintained on a consistent basis. Let's all help to keep New Castle a viable, valuable and great place to live.